

# Safety Alert

## Heat and Ignition Hazard

Improperly applying large quantities of foam products to fill voids can cause underground mine fires. Polyurethane-based foam products will produce heat from an exothermic chemical reaction.



*Improper application of a polyurethane-based foam product filling a high-volume void.*

## Best Practices

- **Use the Proper Product.** Do not fill large voids with foam products that generate a hazardous amount of heat.
- **Follow the Manufacturer's Directions.**
- **Train Miners.** Train miners before handling and using foam, grout, and resin products, including potential heat hazards.
- **Educate Miners on Chemical Exposure Hazards.** Provide miners with Safety Data Sheets (SDS).
- **Foam Placement.** Form used to support foam should be fire resistant or fire retardant.

Report accidents and hazardous conditions: 1-800-746-1553

[msha.gov](https://www.msha.gov) | [askmsha@dol.gov](mailto:askmsha@dol.gov) | [@MSHA\\_DOL](https://twitter.com/MSHA_DOL)